

In fact

For The Millions Who Want a Free Press

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Thanks for the Pay Cut

"So you're getting \$14.50 a week," said the boss.

"Yes."

"That amounts to \$754 a year and would make you liable for income tax under the Senate plan for a \$750 exemption. But I don't think you should pay any tax."

"No."

"So hereafter your pay will be \$14. Never mind the thanks—it's a pleasure."

\$14.43 a Week

"THE Senate Finance Committee believes that an unmarried worker getting \$14.43 a week, or \$750 a year, should pay an income tax. So does practically every newspaper publisher. So do all the vocal employers and their powerful lobbies. So does everyone, in fact, except the workers who have not found a trace of 'the abundant life' in \$14." (Federated Press, Aug 26).

The newspapers which follow the National Ass'n of Manufacturers line applaud "broadening the tax base." Some interesting headlines:

SENATE BLOCKS EXCESS PROFITS TAX (Aug 28)

SENATE TAXES LOW INCOMES DESPITE LABOR PROTEST (Aug 26)

KENNECOTT COPPER GAINS DESPITE TAX RISE (Aug 28)

The FBI at Work

NAZI agents at North American Aviation and Consolidated Aircraft, in California, sabotaged airplanes, causing damage and death. On Jan 23 1939 Harry Bridges, west coast director CIO, acting on information supplied by loyal CIO aviation workers, telephoned President Roosevelt to send the FBI men to California to capture saboteurs, traitors, and accomplices in murder.

The FBI immediately came to California and began gathering "information" from stoolpigeons, thugs, convicts and perverts for the purpose of deporting Harry Bridges. It did not investigate the Nazis in the aviation plants.

Why did the FBI act this way?

According to an impartial source, the S Cal branch American Civil Liberties Union, "the big business interests of this country are still hot on the trail of Harry Bridges."

FBI Violates the Law

WIRE-TAPPING is illegal. Congress again has refused to pass a law legalizing it. Nevertheless the FBI disregards the Constitution of the US and all its laws whenever it feels like it. (When Hitler does it good people denounce Hitlerism.)

J Edgar Hoover employs none but college men, but not all college men are

People Face Double Robbery: Taxes and Living Costs p. 1

Corruption and Fascism Unite in NY Campaign p. 3

ALTHOUGH the United States is the richest country in the world, and could therefore produce both guns and butter without harming its people or the war effort, a situation has arisen which in its simplest terms is this: the corporations are getting richer and the people are getting poorer. The reason this is possible is because this country, as definitely and documentarily proven by the O'Mahoney Monopoly Investigation, is controlled by 200 industrial and 50 banking families, which rule not only the prices of food but control elections (through their \$25,000,000 election fund) and the Congress, which functions as their agent, protecting profits (by tariffs, etc), and passing tax measures aimed to soak the poor and protect the rich, and without regard to ability to pay.

Cost of Living Unjustifiably Up

The national situation today can be summed up (and documented) as follows:

1. The cost of living has gone up tremendously. It is not justified.
2. The standard of living of the middle class and the poor must go down because real wages have not increased.
3. The proposed tax on \$14.43 a week incomes is a victory for the Big Business elements (National Ass'n of Manufacturers, etc) which control Congress (TNEC monograph 26) and their prostituted agent, the press (Mon 26). This further reduces American living standards.
4. Corporation profits, despite all war taxes, are higher than ever.
5. There is a deliberate plot by the biggest of Big Business, such as the Mellon Aluminum Trust, to use the war emergency to ruin medium and small business. (Facts in a later issue).
6. Labor is blamed by the falsifiers in the press, whereas it is a fact that strikes and wage demands gained labor only a 10% increase after the cost of living had been increased 20% by manufacturers, landlords, etc.

In the financial press and statistical agencies of Big Business it is taken for granted that the sacrifices of the present war must be made by the little people, not by the big corporations; that as a result the living standard of additional millions must go down. Thus the combined agencies, Standard & Poor's, in their "Outlook for the Security Markets" (6/2) declare that "the standards of living which prevailed when the country was at peace are out of the question for the duration of the conflict . . . Whether we win or lose, it will probably be impossible for us to reattain the pre-war standard of living for many years after the final military decision." Again, "We are not prepared, economically, to wage a long war without severe downward adjustments in living standards."—(Forbes Magazine 6/15).

Translated into simple English this means there will be more misery, more starvation, more sickness due to lack of proper diet than ever before and that there will be an addition to the third of a nation ill-fed, ill-housed and ill-clothed (which is 45,000,000), thanks to the Tories who make the laws and the native fascisti who rule this country. The present situation, according to the National Nutrition Conference for Defense, recently held in Washington, is:

1. Only about a fourth of the families of the USA are well fed.
2. Over a third have diets which cannot be considered adequate by even the most conservative standards. This section of the people is already overtaxed and underpaid to the point of slow starvation. (This third is no better off economically than it would be under Hitler.)
3. Forty percent of the young men eligible for military conscription are not physically fit largely because of lack of a proper diet.
4. Millions of Americans cannot buy the food they need even if they had knowledge of good nutrition.

Newspapers Blame Farmers, Labor

Naturally enough the commercial or standard newspapers of this country, definitely exposed as enemies of the general welfare of the people and agents of the monopolies, try to blame the increased cost of living on labor, which through its unions has in the past years won slight increases in wages, and on the farmers. Since every housewife knows that meat, eggs and other foods have gone up, it is easy for the press to fool people.

So far as meat is concerned, the Dep't of Agriculture admits there is a shortage. When, however, the War Dep't wants to buy large quantities of Argentine beef, and so keep prices down, western Senators rage about the American standard of living, roar about protecting the "farmer," when in reality they are

protecting the cattle barons—who are as far removed from farmers as the Associated Farmers are. They are Big Business.

Typical of the falsehood against farmers and labor is the charge ("Rising prices laid to pressure by farming and labor groups") made by the renegade liberal, Mark Sullivan, in the organ of Big Business, NY Herald-Tribune (7/23/41). In the face of the Monopoly Investigation finding that these and all other pressure groups in Washington are powerless compared to the manufacturers-press lobby, Sullivan and the papers in which his column appear, state the opposite. Here, however, are the facts. (Corporate profits of course mean that the public paid more money; wages, it must be remembered, constitute only a small proportion of value of products, 6% in meat, 21% in steel, 16% in autos).

(Column 1 is from US Dep't of Labor except aircraft, which is from Dep't of Commerce; col 2 is Nat'l City Bank letter, Mar 41).

	1940 increases over 1939	
	weekly wage increase	Corporation net profits
All Manufacturing	6%	27%
Aircraft	3%	191%
Iron, Steel	5%	98%
Machinery	8%	68%
Transportation (mainly autos)	7%	25%
Textiles	2%	33%

On Aug 26 the American Federation of Labor issued a statement showing that wage gains in the past year do not warrant the slightest advance in prices and that industry's profits are so immense they can easily absorb the moderate wage increases; "furthermore, workers' increasing productivity steadily reduces unit labor costs and expanding industrial production is reducing unit overhead costs."

The AFL demanded that the US Gov't stop profiteering; it fears a "run-away" situation like that in World War I, when the newspapers carried stories about workmen wearing silk shirts and drinking champagne whereas in truth the cost of living "more than doubled, thus, in effect, imposing a heavy wage cut on workers." The AFL chart for June 1941 shows a price increase (non-farm) of 11.2% over June 1940 of which exactly 1.4% was due to wage increases; "the rest is gravy for the employers."

More About the Unfair Tax Program

Through the maze of hearings, conferences and discussion about taxation, one conclusion emerges clearly and unequivocally. Little America is to be taxed big; Big America is to be taxed little. This problem of taxes, with its far reaching ramifications, must be considered with reference to the cost of living and corporate profits. The examination of the Dep't of Labor Bureau of Statistics Weekly Wholesale Price Bulletin reveals the following forebodings about the prices American housewives face in the immediate future. IN FACT presents a comparison of Aug 9 1941 figures, with those of Aug 12 1939.

Foods	increase in price Aug 9 1941 over Aug 12 1939 of 28.3%
Farm Products	increase in price Aug 9 1941 over Aug 12 1939 of 40.9%
Textiles	increase in price Aug 9 1941 over Aug 12 1939 of 28.1%
Raw Materials	increase in price Aug 9 1941 over Aug 12 1939 of 29.8%
Semi-manufactured Articles	increase in price Aug 9 1941 over Aug 12 1939 of 19.0%
Manufactured Commodities	increase in price Aug 9 1941 over Aug 12 1939 of 14.7%

Acting Commissioner Hinrichs of the Bureau reports, "The (all commodity) index is at the highest level since the Spring of 1930 and is 20% above the point of Aug 19 1939 just before the outbreak of the war."

As prices soar, the American wage earner will find that his real wage, as measured in purchasing power, is much less than the amount in his pay envelope on Aug 1939, wage increases "to the contrary notwithstanding." In addition to this "normal" wartime prospect of increased cost of living, the American little-man faces a still sharper reduction in his actual income because of the "soak the poor" tax bill Big Business is ramming through Congress.

Meanwhile, alongside soaring prices, we find soaring profits. Paradoxically enough, the higher prices the wage earner pays are exceeded only by the higher profits Big Business America is realizing from the defense program for which all are told they must sacrifice and pay.

The National City Bank, in its August Bulletin, analyzes the profits of leading corporations for the half year ending June 30 1941. IN FACT compares these figures with the comparable periods of 1940 and 1939.

	Industrial Groups	Companies Reporting	
1941	25	360	****increase in profits 1941 over 1940 of 20.3%
1940	30	400	****increase in profits 1940 over 1939 of 58.6%

This percentage increase of 78.9 is large enough, but when the Bulletin of Aug 1939 shows an increase in net profits over 1938 of a cool 100%, the recapitulation is staggering. Simple arithmetic discloses an increase in net profits, 1941 over 1938, of 178.9 percent!

The Steel industry has fought against labor and democracy perhaps more than any other American business. The Steel industry prospers, in a war boom, perhaps more than any other American business. The table below presents the "honor roll" of the Steel industry and compares the 1941 half year net with

very bright. Some of Hoover's prize jackasses tapped Harry Bridges' phone at the Hotel Edison on his recent visit to NYC. Since Bridges knows that the FBI shadows him daily everywhere Bridges had an Olympian laugh throughout his visit when he filled his room with friends and put on amazing conversations for the benefit of the FBI. In order to find out who was participating in the FBI law violation Bridges one day said loudly he would join a certain picketline, and shortly afterwards this hoax was printed as news in NYC's chief anti-labor paper, the World-Telegram. NYC's only liberal paper, PM, collaborated with Bridges, got photos of Hoover agents, also dumb detective's carbon paper, once used, showing letter signed "Evelle J Younger, Special Agent." Yale or Harvard?

Dreiser on Bridges

"Believe me, for I speak of what I know: Harry Bridges is a better American than most Americans ever dreamed of being. . . .

"The men, like Bridges, who bounce back, are the hope of the masses in America—the hope of democracy in America. What blows and pounding he has taken and is still taking! 'You have to have quite a little youth' . . . yes, and America will have to have quite a little youth, and use every ounce of it, to save democracy in this land."—Dreiser.

Family Terrorized

BRIDGES knows how to handle the FBI, but plain people are terrorized. Here is an authentic case written for IN FACT by a noted NYC writer who is a neighbor of the family in question:

"Italian-born mother and two sons have a little grocery store in Greenwich Village. One son goes to U of Mich. While home on Easter vacation he appears before his draft board.

"About this same time two Phobes (FBI men) interview the other son. Show him long list of people living in an area of several blocks around grocery store. Ask him if he knows whether any of these are radical. He has delivered groceries to Mr A: what did he see in the house, what books were read, what newspapers? Same questions re Miss B, Mrs C and so on down the list. Notice the FBI chose a man who could be thought easily intimidated on several grounds—of draft age himself, with a brother of draft age, needed by mother to carry on a little business; foreign-born, young and inexperienced."

Mr Hoover, Please Write

J EDGAR HOOVER recently took time to write an IN FACT subscriber (TAM) to say that IN FACT's disclosures of dirty FBI work consist of "lies and falsehoods." IN FACT reported that the FBI refused to investigate Bridges' report of Nazi espionage, that Senator Norris and other leading citizens had denounced FBI activities, that the CIO and other unions representing millions accuse the FBI of fighting labor, not crooks, that the Civil Liberties Union urges that the FBI be watched and checked constantly by all favoring civil liberties because the FBI violates constitutional rights.

IN FACT wrote Hoover July 21 asking whether all these statements are true or false, offered to correct every error, print Hoover's letter in full. Mr Hoover, who finds time to write long letters to

individuals, found no time to reply to a publication read by more than 500,000 liberal Americans.

Venial Press (continued)

THE press of the nation's metropolis apparently no longer cares to keep up the pretense of honesty. In dealing with a strike at one of its three largest advertisers, 75% or more of NYC's newspapers suppressed or cut the news to a paragraph and buried it. NYD News, a fifty million dollar company, took over the Scripps-Howard policy of redbaiting the Gimbel Bros strike and America's most pretentious paper, the Times, ran exactly one paragraph bottom, last col, page 11, Aug 23, headlined "GIMBEL STRIKE STILL ON."

Among news items most newspapers suppressed was discovery by CIO Industrial Council that all dep't stores were supporting Gimbel financially. Saul Mills, CIO Sec'y, said Macy's, Bloomingdale's, Stern's, Best's, Altman's, Namm's, were in "an employers' conspiracy to smash legitimate labor organizations." The most sacred cow in NYC is Macy's. The only standard newspaper not afraid to report Gimbel, Macy, or other dep't store news is PM. PM takes no advertising. It therefore shows up the continued venality of the commercial press.

True or False?

UNDER the heading "Truth Still Mighty" America's most powerful paper, the NYTimes, prints a letter praising the press associations for truthful reporting. These 3 assn's send about 90% of the national and world news found in our press.

The associations are: AP, "cooperatively" owned by the publishers; UP, owned by labor-hater redbaiter Roy Howard; INS, owned by Hearst.

Of the AP President Theodore Roosevelt wrote: "The Associated Press has evidently gone into faking news about me, both by the suppression of the truth and the suggestion of the false." (IN FACT owns photostat of original, thanks to a subscriber).

Of the UP President Franklin Roosevelt said it was "guilty of falsification"; he wrote out and signed the statement (IF, June 16).

Of Hearst's INS: Aug 18, following INS report that FDR had approved a censorship bill, FDR's sec'y Stephen Early, issued a statement saying Roosevelt "cannot imagine the source of such a news report unless it be the Wilhelmstrasse or from someone in this country who thinks more of Germany than he does of the US." IN FACT owns an original sheet of AP copy in which the INS is mentioned, although the name of the agency was generally suppressed.

Aug 26 headline: PRESIDENT CALLS LEASE AID TALES VICIOUS LYING. Why

pre-war 1939 half year figures. The figures shriek out the inadequacy of a tax program which permits such an increase in profits.

	Half Year 1941	Half Year 1939
	Net Profits	Net Profits
U. S. Steel	\$61,374,746	\$1,970,311
Bethlehem	16,087,485	6,231,986
Republic	13,618,716	1,083,311
Jones & Laughlin	8,098,227	deficit of 847,812
National	9,721,819	4,385,424
Youngstown	9,342,194	546,193
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$118,243,187	\$14,217,225

This is an increase of 700 percent (approximately).

The conclusion, from the price increases on the one hand, and the profit swelling on the other, is simple. Big Business America is continuing its private-monopoly dictatorship for profit. Little America is suffering and paying.

Tammany, Corruption, Coughlinism Unite (Part 2)

IN its last issue IN FACT reported on the present situation in NY City, where all the native fascist elements (notably Tammany, the corrupt political machine, Christian Front, Nazi Bund, at least a part of America First, and the Hearst press) have lined up behind the Tammany candidate O'Dwyer for mayor.

The importance of this election is that it has a national significance. The national organizations on the Fascist side are the Coughlinite Christian Front and America First. One brings religious controversy and fascism squarely before the anti-fascist American people, the latter (America First) is not yet definitely all-out for fascism, anti-Semitism, and intolerance, but may take its cue from its NYC political test.

In the Sept 1 issue we said that "the poor deluded Italian-Americans who have been fooled by Generoso Pope's pro-Fascist newspapers" support O'Dwyer. The intelligent liberal Italian vote of either Italian-born or descendants of Italians is anti-Fascist and a large part of it will be in the American Labor Party.

Many anti-British Irish are for O'Dwyer. The just grievances of the Irish people are being demagogically and cynically exploited by Tammany. Tammany has always used this tactic.

IN FACT's last issue concluded with an illustration of the relationship of politics, vice, corruption. In the trial of the leading bookmaker, Frank Erickson, it was testified that Brooklyn District Att'y Wm F X Geoghan had been a close associate of Erickson's, but that he got a clean bill of health. He was asked, according to the NYDNews (Aug 10 1941) if he didn't know that a bribe, passed in vain to prevent the indictment of the two slayers of Samuel Druckman, had gone through Frank's hands?

"Certainly not," continues the NYDN report, "he didn't even know that Frank had ever been arrested. . . .

"And didn't he accept a \$500 campaign contribution from Erickson and then commit a misdemeanor by concealing the name of the donor when the gift was listed from Abraham Allenberg, Erickson's attorney? Yes, but he did that at Allenberg's request.

"Erickson's . . . dealings with underworld friends continued. For example, he loaned Dixie Davis \$20,000. He went bail for \$75,000 for Arthur (Dutch Schultz) Flegenheimer. . . .

"Brooklyn came in for some more investigation early in 1939—and two of those caught in the investigation's net were Martin Cannon and Judge George W Martin of Kings Co. . . .

"Erickson in applying for his pistol permits had said that he had never been arrested. . . . Then the Mayor (LaGuardia) announced proudly that he had sicked the State and Federal tax investigation bureaus onto Erickson. . . . Queens County Judge Thomas Downs promptly dismissed the case (pistol permit) and railed at those who brought the action, meaning Butch LaGuardia. . . . LaGuardia, incensed, snorted 'We will not relent' and ordered the immediate arrest of Erickson as a vagrant. The Mayor described city officials as of two kinds—those who wanted 'punks, tin horns, and gangsters in the city' and those who didn't. . . . Judge Downs for his part sat down and wrote LaGuardia an irate letter."

In Dec 1939 Erickson was convicted of second-degree perjury and received a sentence of exactly 30 days! His lawyers took an appeal, decision was reversed in March 1940, and later case was dismissed.

LaGuardia still hopes to put Erickson in jail.

Erickson Paid \$500,000 Graft a Year

Compared to daily incidents of crooked politics, gambling and vice, which are never made public, the Erickson case is considered picayune by big politicians. Nevertheless the NY Journal-American reported that "Erickson, king of the nation's bookmakers, reputedly pays \$500,000 a year tribute to operate in New Jersey. This is the reason the 'king' can do no wrong in the state. His gambling dynasty until now has been impregnable." Who gets the \$500,000 a year? Why doesn't the Hearst newspaper investigate, expose, name the crooks?

Some time ago, when Boss Hague of Jersey City stopped the organizers of

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the CIO from using their constitutional right of free speech in his effort to keep his Tsardom an anti-union city, it was estimated that the racetrack graft in Jersey City was as high as \$50,000,000 a year. But outside of vague references to "the machine" no one was accused of giving or receiving. The reason the newspapers do not follow the trail of vice and politics beyond its first line of defense, the gangsters, tindhorn sports, and petty gamblers, is that it leads not only into politics but eventually to the rulers of cities and the real rulers of America.

What Is the NY "Power House"?

In the 1940 election Tammany attempted to destroy Proportional Representation which had deprived it of chances for graft and corruption. The New Republic proposed that a decent organization take its place, since there are "few men of honor, character and ability in its leadership. Its only real purpose is to steal, which it used to do at the rate of \$1,000,000 a day. That purpose hardly warrants its continued existence. In NY, Tammany is practically coextensive with the Catholic Church, which suggests that the responsible leaders of the Church ought to think seriously about repudiating the Wigwam. Quite apart from the ethical questions involved, the outstanding fact about the Church hierarchy during its whole career has been that it has never stayed very long on the losing side in any struggle. Tammany is the losing side; what can the Church hierarchy possibly hope to gain from going on that would counterbalance the losses it incurs?" However, since then the Power House has never repudiated the Tammany Wigwam.

The mere fact that the term "the Power House" is common in inside political circles points to the fact that the Church hierarchy is considered a power in politics. The power house is 477 Madison Avenue, the chancery office of the Church, and by the Power House the politicians mean the power of the Cardinal or the Archbishop who directs the diocese from that address. Today the reference is to Archbishop Spellman. Spellman is the cleric chosen by the late Pope to smuggle out his encyclical against Mussolini's fascism. Spellman is an anti-fascist. Incidentally, it is interesting to note that the Brooklyn diocese is not only larger than that of NYC but it is the largest in the world. It is completely dominated by pro-Fascist (therefore anti-Spellman) priests and politicians, mostly Tammany men.

What O'Dwyer Is Personally

Early readers of IN FACT may remember that it was the first (and for a long time the only) publication which challenged Wendell Willkie to take a stand on Coughlin. In our July 29 1940 issue we reported Willkie saying "I consider anti-Semitism in America as a possible criminal movement and every anti-Semite as a possible traitor to America." We also reported that Willkie had been "nominated" for president by Coughlin in his Social Justice, and added, "Willkie's denunciation of anti-Semitism is meaningless without a repudiation and denunciation of Coughlin support. Otherwise his statement on anti-Semitism is not sincere, only good politics."

Willkie accepted the challenge. He not only reaffirmed his repudiation of anti-Semitism but specifically repudiated the support of Father Coughlin and Social Justice.

Similar situations now confront mayoralty candidate O'Dwyer and the leading isolationist organization in the country, America First.

O'Dwyer says he is a hater of anti-Semitism, of Coughlin, of the Christian Front, of political preachers of all creeds, of reaction, of all forms of Fascism and notably of the Christian Front. This statement is made on the basis of an evening spent with O'Dwyer at the home of a noted NYC liberal (and Jewish) lawyer. Everyone who knows O'Dwyer believes him to be the enemy of Coughlin, the Christian Front, Hearst, Tammany, the Bund and in fact every element and person now joined in the native-fascist pro-Tammany O'Dwyer mayoralty campaign. But words spoken in private are not enough. If O'Dwyer has real integrity he will openly denounce the support of the united fascists; if he keeps silent or straddles the issue he will prove himself nothing more than an ordinary—and by implication venal—Tammany politician.

did the newspapers suppress the name of the source responsible for "vicious lying?" Because it was one of their leaders in the American Newspaper Publishers Ass'n. Mr Roosevelt was referring to a story by Walter Trohan of Col McCormick's Chicago Tribune. (If enough subscribers ask for it, IN FACT will print a survey of distortion, bias, and falsehood in the Chicago Tribune, the newspaper which IN FACT's editor represented in Berlin, Moscow, Rome, etc for 10 years).

Big Summer News

THERE have been many important stories in IN FACT which readers who permitted their subscriptions to lapse during the hot summer have missed, notably:

July 7: The secret of why France fell; how Life Magazine fooled its 20,000,000 readers with a phony poll.

July 15: The Mellon aluminum deal with Hitler which helped the collapse of France; worldwide aluminum conspiracy exposed.

July 21: Confessions of Ralph Rimar, spy for Henry Ford; the sensational inside story of espionage and corruption in the Ford Empire (exclusive summary of a future book).

July 28: New US Army in many camps shown to be trained to fight labor; fascist methods of War Dep't exposed.

Aug 4: Pro-Japanese appeasers, pro-Hitler diplomats in US State Dep't named and activities exposed; Hearst press accused of anti-Semitism.

Aug 11: Hearst and Hitler; Fascism in Washington civil service and in US Post Office.

Aug 18: Press and politicians betray the people; how the new tax bill soaks the poor and little men and helps rich escape; commercial press favors bill; free press opposes.

Aug 25: Senator Nye accuses J P Morgan; exclusive statement to IN FACT on the movies; Jewish producers, Catholic pressure, Protestant censorship; bankers who control movies.

Sept 1: Politicians, Christian Fronters, vice interests unite in New York mayoralty election campaign which will be test for formation of a real Fascist Party in America.

(IN FACT this summer has published some of the most important news stories in its history; back numbers can be had at 5¢ each.)

Power of Taxation

"THE power to tax is the one great power on which the whole fabric is based. It is not only the power to destroy, but also the power to keep alive."—Marshall.



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